

BOROUGH OF NEWBURY
RURAL DISTRICTS OF BRADFIELD, NEWBURY
AND HUNGERFORD

ANNUAL
REPORT

SOUTH BERKSHIRE COMBINED

- | | |
|---------------------|-------|
| 1. Dr. Didsbury | C.407 |
| 2. Mr. Morley Parry | A.419 |
| 3. Mr. Perry | A.405 |
| 4. Miss Pidgeon | A.408 |

for the year

1965

BOROUGH OF NEWBURY
RURAL DISTRICTS OF BRADFIELD, NEWBURY
AND HUNGERFORD

ANNUAL
REPORT

of

THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
(including the reports of the
Public Health Inspectors)

for the year

1965

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE SOUTH BERKS JOINT PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour and duty of presenting to you the Annual Report for 1965.

The increase in the population of the area which has been noted on so many occasions can again be seen in detail in the statistical tables on the later pages of the report. The percentage increase of the population over the joint area is just under $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. Over half the absolute increase has taken place in Bradfield Rural District whose population has increased by over 3 per cent during the year. Hungerford Rural District, however, has had an increase of population of only just over 1 per cent.

In all four areas the increase of population is largely due to immigration into the district. In Bradfield this immigration has been mainly to the east of the district in the parts bordering Reading County Borough. Much of the development in this part of the County can hardly be regarded as typical of a rural community and the urban nature of this part of the district must bring in its wake problems which will show themselves in future years.

One such disadvantage of urban living which is surely going to need action within a fairly short time is the pollution of air by domestic smoke. It must be admitted this will never be a problem of the dimensions encountered in some of the large industrial conurbations. It must be realised also that even should smoke control areas be declared for the urban parts of the district it would not result in any immediate visible clearing of the atmosphere and an end to fog and the dirty marks which fog leaves behind. If anyone is in any doubt about the presence of smoke in the air of this area, such doubts will be dispelled by looking at the black greasy marks left on a car windscreen at the edges of the zone swept by the wipers after driving through any of the autumn fogs which are such a familiar hazard on the main road running through all four districts. Rather, in my view, should smoke control be viewed as part of a nation wide movement to make the air we breathe as clean and wholesome as the water we drink—whether this is fluoridated or not—or the food we eat. The smoke free areas are not going to stand out as crystal clear patches, for atmospheric

movement carries our smoke to other areas and in turn carries someone else's smoke to us. But a nation wide effort towards cleaner air will gradually ensure that the overall level of pollution is reduced.

It will be seen from the table on infectious diseases that we have been fortunate in the small amount of reported food poisoning and dysentery. The word of most significance in the previous sentence is the word "reported". There have been, nevertheless, small outbreaks of illness characterised by diarrhoea or vomiting which have often not reached the notice of the general practitioners and have consequently not been notified. Generally these outbreaks have been in schoolchildren, the symptoms have been mild and in many instances the children have returned to school within 24 hours. Most parents, being unwilling to bother their general practitioner for something which they regard as almost a normal part of school life, treat the children with aspirin and one of the tasty "health drinks" so temptingly advertised on television and the child returns when the symptoms have gone. Thus there is no investigation of the true nature of these outbreaks.

Unfortunately even when we hear of these episodes, via head teachers, and it is often difficult for school staffs to realise that anything is amiss until a fairly late stage, as these outbreaks start so insidiously with only one or two children away at a time, bacteriological investigation seldom reveals anything on which we can give any specific advice. The number of theoretical explanations for these outbreaks is vast but none are proven. Until such time as a convincing proof can be adduced we can only resort to rules of thumb and to insistence on the general principles of hygiene and cleanliness.

This firmness in advising hand washing after visiting the lavatory and before eating must still be one of the major planks in our platform of health education. As with all such projects the example of parents and adults in general is as useful as the formal talks, film strips, playlets and the like. It is quite appalling, however, to see how poor is the precept set by so many adults. Hand washing facilities in public lavatories are often used only by vandals regarding them as toys and, although I have no figures to quote, I am sure that the rule of hand washing is more frequently honoured in the breach rather than the observance by the patrons of even the most exclusive restaurants. The thought of taking peanuts from the dish on the bar remembering what other fingers have also dipped into the bowl must be abhorrent.

It is difficult, too, to see how we can inculcate higher standards of cleanliness when our children can walk in almost any of the

busier streets and find it literally physically impossible to avoid stepping in the filth deposited on them by dogs. It is, I submit, irrelevant, whether or not dog excrement is a source of disease. The point which I wish to make is that such fouling of public paths and the grass verges on housing estates is a disgusting reflection on our general standard of self respect and cleanliness. To teach a child whether explicitly or implicitly that such a mess is not eminently reprehensible is cutting back much of the excellent hygiene education undertaken by the public health inspectors, health visitors and teachers.

While still on the table of infectious diseases it is, of course, still pleasing to note the absence of smallpox, diphtheria and poliomyelitis. It is also a matter of speculation as to how many years it will be possible to repeat this statement. Immunisation has been almost the sole factor in eliminating these diseases. But the parental response to appeals to have children immunised is falling. The initial response to the poliomyelitis vaccination campaign was almost overwhelming and I imagine, although this was before I entered public health, that diphtheria immunisation was greeted in the same enthusiastic fashion. But now it is necessary to press immunisation. Much of the time of the health visitors is spent in urging these vital prophylactic measures and the Infant Welfare Clinics, whose role is changing in so many other ways, still have immunisation as one of their major functions. But I am sure it is largely a matter of chance that there have not been any episodes of these diseases in this area in the past few years.

Every effort must be made to maintain an even higher level of immunisation and vaccination. My own view is that this is best done through the personal contact of the health visitors, general practitioners and health department staff, rather than by posters and formal lectures which have been so notably ineffectual in a similar campaign to reduce cigarette smoking.

Within the past year yet another immunisation procedure has been introduced. This is to prevent measles. The multiplicity of injections which are now available is to some extent killing the goose that laid the golden egg. Parents are confused by the variety of ages, timings and diseases involved. They are concerned by the number of visits required and by the thought of the discomfort to which their children may be subjected. The development of single injection techniques against several diseases which may be available within the foreseeable future, will to some extent allay this understandable anxiety and may help to boost the level of protection to a safer figure.

But whatever the measures taken by health department staff,

the final responsibility for maintaining health and freedom from disease will always rest with the individual. It is he or she who must follow what in the vast majority of instances can only be advice from local authority officers and only in the final resort can any compulsory action be taken to ensure that the errors of individuals do not menace the general health of the rest of the district.

Finally I would like to thank the Committee and my fellow officers for their help, advice and co-operation during the year under review.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

ROBERT HANDY

Medical Officer of Health

SOUTH BERKS JOINT PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

1965 - 1966

LIST OF MEMBERS

Newbury Borough	M. W. PAINE, ESQ., M.B.E. J. W. SLATER, ESQ., J.P. F. H. GRAHAM, ESQ.
Bradfield R.D.	MRS. M. P. SHOWERS A. H. WYATT, ESQ. MRS. K. M. BLANDFORD
Newbury R.D.	F. HOWES, ESQ., J.P. (Chairman) H. C. ROBBINS, ESQ. DR. R. WARWICK BROWN
Hungerford R.D.	MISS C. C. CARDEN R. M. BALDWIN, ESQ.
Berks County Council ...	A. ARBUTHNOTT, ESQ., M.B.E., E.D. MAJOR H. FAIRFAX HARVEY, M.B.E., M.C. HON. MRS. W. MACLAY

Clerk: L. SOUTHERN, ESQ., LL.B., Municipal Buildings, Newbury.
(Telephone 109).

BOROUGH OF NEWBURY, RURAL DISTRICTS OF BRADFIELD, NEWBURY AND HUNGERFORD

Medical Officer of Health:

R. HANDY, M.B., D.P.H.

Public Health Office, Greenham House, Newbury

Telephone: Newbury 1144

Newbury Borough	J. HAGUE, F.A.P.H.I. (Retired 31/x/65), Chief Public Health Inspector, 16 Market Place, Newbury. (Telephone 446). Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute as Sanitary Inspector. Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute as Inspector of Meat and other Foods.
	G. J. WICKENS, M.A.P.H.I., Add. Public Health Inspector. (Appointed Chief Public Health Inspector 1/xi/65) Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors' Board. Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute as Inspector of Meat and other Foods.

K. H. JAMES, M.A.P.H.I. (Appointed 1/i/65)
 Additional Public Health Inspector
 Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute and
 Sanitary Inspectors Joint Board as Sanitary Inspector.
 Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute as
 Inspector of Meat and other Foods.
 Certificate of Sanitary Science as applied to
 Building and Public Works.

A. J. PENTECOST, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.
 (Appointed 25/viii/65)
 Public Health Inspectors Diploma of the
 Public Health Inspectors' Education
 Board.

Bradfield R.D. ... P. J. WING, M.A.P.H.I.,
 26 Bath Road, Reading.
 (Telephone 55581)
 Certificate of the Public Health Inspectors'
 Education Board.

G. ROSSER, M.A.P.H.I.,
 Certificate of the Public Health Inspectors'
 Education Board.
 Certificate of the Royal Society of Health
 as Inspector of Meat and other Foods.

Newbury R.D. ... C. J. COOKE, M.A.P.H.I.,
 Chief Public Health Inspector,
 Pheonix House, Bartholomew Street,
 Newbury.
 (Telephone 2400).
 Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute as
 Sanitary Inspector.
 Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute as
 Inspector of Meat and other Foods.

S. BURGESS, M.A.P.H.I.,
 Add. Public Health Inspector.
 Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute
 and Sanitary Inspectors' Joint Board.

M. E. NORTHCOMBE, M.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H.,
 Add. Public Health Inspector.
 Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute as
 Sanitary Inspector.
 Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute as
 Inspector of Meat and other Foods.

Hungerford R.D. ... J. E. EDWARDS, M.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H.,
 Chief Public Health Inspector.
 The Priory, Hungerford. (Telephone 114).
 Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute as
 Sanitary Inspector.

J. B. STOCKS, M.A.P.H.I.,
 Certificate of Public Health Inspectors'
 Examination Board as Public Health
 Inspector.

GENERAL STATISTICS

District			Area in Acres (Land and Inland Water)	Estimated Population	Persons per Acre
Newbury Borough	...	...	2,612	21,750	8·3
Bradfield Rural	...	...	53,008	34,600	0·7
Newbury Rural	...	...	41,660	21,710	0·5
Hungerford Rural	...	...	44,817	10,250	0·2
Joint Districts	...	...	142,097	88,310	0·6

Area			Births	Deaths	Population Change (+ or -)	Births Minus Deaths
Newbury Borough	...	...	399	247	+ 370	152
Bradfield R.D.	...	...	841	239	+ 1,050	602
Newbury R.D.	...	...	427	193	+ 540	234
Hungerford R.D.	...	...	166	117	+ 120	49
Joint Districts	...	...	1,833	796	+ 2,080	1,037

VITAL STATISTICS

Births and Deaths

The following table shows the totals of births and deaths and the rates per thousand appropriate population. The corresponding figures for 1964 are in brackets.

District	Number of Live Births	Live Births Rate	Death Rate	Infant Deaths per 1,000 live Births
Newbury Borough	399 (383)	18.7 (18.3)	9.3 (10.7)	2.5 (26.1)
Bradfield Rural	841 (713)	22.2 (21.3)	8.8 (7.0)	13.1 (14.0)
Newbury Rural	427 (444)	19.3 (20.5)	9.6 (10.0)	9.4 (9.0)
Hungerford Rural	166 (185)	17.7 (19.9)	8.6 (8.5)	6.0 (16.2)
Joint Districts	1,833 (1,725)	20.8 (20.0)	9.0 (9.3)	9.3 (15.7)

	Newbury Borough	Bradfield Rural	Newbury Rural	Hungerford Rural	Joint Districts
Illegitimate live births per cent total live births	7.8 (8.4)	5.9 (6.0)	6.1 (6.5)	9.0 (7.0)	6.7 (7.1)

District	Still-births	Total live and still-births	Still birth rate	Neo-natal death rate
Newbury Borough	5 (6)	404 (389)	12.4 (15.4)	0 (23.5)
Bradfield Rural	12 (15)	853 (728)	14.1 (20.6)	10.7 (9.8)
Newbury Rural	5 (5)	432 (449)	11.6 (11.1)	7.0 (4.5)
Hungerford Rural	1 (0)	167 (185)	6.0 (0)	0 (0)
Joint Districts	23 (26)	1856 (1751)	12.4 (14.8)	6.5 (10.4)

District	Early Neo-natal death rate				Peri-natal death rate
Newbury Borough	0 (18.3)	12.4 (33.4)
Bradfield Rural	7.1 (9.8)	21.1 (30.3)
Newbury Rural	7.0 (4.5)	18.5 (15.6)
Hungerford Rural	0 (0)	6.0 (39.6)
Joint Districts	4.9 (9.3)	17.2 (24.0)

District	Total Infant Deaths	Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age	Legitimate Infant death rate	Illegitimate Infant death rate
Newbury Borough	1 (10)	0 (9)	2.7 (28.5)	0 (0)
Bradfield Rural	11 (10)	9 (7)	13.9 (13.4)	0 (23.3)
Newbury Rural	4 (4)	3 (2)	7.5 (9.6)	38.5 (0)
Hungerford Rural	1 (3)	0 (0)	6.6 (11.5)	0 (90.9)
Joint Districts	17 (27)	12 (18)	9.4 (15.6)	8.2 (17.4)

Maternal Morality

There were no deaths in this category in any of the four areas.

CAUSES OF DEATH

(Figures for 1964 are in brackets)

DEATHS:	Newbury Borough	Bradfield Rural	Newbury Rural	Hunger- ford Rural	Total (all areas)
Tuberculosis, respiratory ...	1 (—)	1 (—)	2 (2)	— (1)	4 (3)
Tuberculosis, other ...	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (1)	— (1)
Syphilitic disease ...	— (1)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (1)
Diphtheria ...	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
Whooping Cough ...	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
Meningococcal infections ...	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
Measles ...	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
Other infective and parasitic diseases ...	1 (—)	— (—)	— (1)	1 (—)	2 (1)
Malignant neoplasm, stomach ...	7 (4)	9 (8)	6 (9)	3 (1)	25 (22)
Malignant neoplasm, lung bronchus ..	7 (9)	12 (14)	10 (8)	6 (9)	35 (40)
Malignant neoplasm, breast ...	5 (4)	5 (10)	3 (4)	— (—)	13 (18)
Malignant neoplasm, uterus ...	1 (3)	— (1)	1 (3)	1 (—)	3 (7)
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	27 (28)	21 (28)	18 (27)	12 (7)	78 (90)
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	— (3)	1 (3)	2 (—)	— (—)	3 (6)
Diabetes ...	2 (3)	— (2)	2 (—)	1 (1)	5 (6)
Vascular lesions of ner- vous-systems—stroke	44 (56)	28 (33)	27 (33)	16 (19)	115 (141)
Coronary disease, angina ...	39 (47)	47 (55)	27 (22)	26 (19)	139 (143)
Hypertension with heart disease ...	6 (3)	2 (6)	2 (5)	4 (2)	14 (16)
Other heart disease ...	41 (36)	25 (18)	28 (28)	15 (12)	109 (94)
Other circulatory disease ...	8 (10)	10 (4)	10 (4)	10 (9)	38 (27)
Influenza ...	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
Pneumonia ...	15 (16)	17 (12)	9 (9)	5 (7)	46 (44)
Bronchitis ...	10 (8)	10 (5)	8 (3)	9 (6)	37 (22)
Other disease of respiratory system	4 (4)	2 (2)	— (1)	— (1)	6 (8)
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	— (—)	— (—)	5 (—)	— (—)	5 (—)
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ...	1 (—)	1 (1)	1 (—)	— (1)	3 (2)
Nephritis & nephrosis	— (1)	1 (—)	— (—)	— (—)	1 (1)
Hyperplasia of prostate	2 (1)	— (—)	1 (—)	— (—)	3 (1)
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ...	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
Congenital malformations ...	1 (5)	4 (5)	3 (3)	1 (—)	9 (13)
Other defined and ill- defined diseases ...	16 (15)	30 (18)	16 (15)	5 (5)	67 (53)
Motor vehicle accidents	3 (6)	5 (5)	5 (6)	— (3)	13 (20)
All other accidents ...	6 (4)	4 (2)	6 (6)	2 (2)	18 (14)
Suicide ...	— (3)	4 (4)	1 (1)	— (1)	5 (9)
Homicide and... operations of war	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)	— (—)
All causes ...	247 (270)	239 (236)	193 (190)	117 (107)	796 (806)

PREVALENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following table gives the number of cases of infectious disease notified in each district during 1965.

Disease	Newbury Borough	Bradfield Rural	Hunger- ford Rural	Newbury Rural	Total All Areas
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	—	7	2	1	10
Erysipelas	—	—	—	1	1
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	1	—	—	1
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Polioencephalitis	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	17	18	—	1	36
Acute Primary Pneumonia	1	5	2	2	10
Measles	337	584	42	475	1,438
Whooping Cough	10	6	1	21	38
Food Poisoning	—	2	—	1	3
Respiratory Tuberculosis	6	11	1	6	24
Other Forms of Tuberculosis	2	2	1	4	9
Anthrax	—	—	—	—	—

IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION

These services are under the control of the County Health Department under Part III of the National Health Service Act, 1946.

Newbury Health Sub-Committee is responsible for diphtheria and whooping cough prophylaxis within the Borough of Newbury.

Immunisation is performed at Child Welfare Centres and by the general practitioners, who are also in the main responsible for smallpox vaccination.

Poliomyelitis vaccination is carried out by general practitioners and also at ad hoc clinics.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION, 1965

Number of Children Immunised against Diphtheria

(Figures for 1964 in brackets)

District	Under 1	Over 1 but Under 5	5—15	Total
Newbury Borough:				
Primary ...	232 (270)	141 (177)	27 (6)	400 (453)
Booster ...	— (—)	458 (203)	202 (88)	660 (291)
Bradfield Rural:				
Primary ...	393 (444)	310 (216)	18 (18)	721 (678)
Booster ...	7 (—)	714 (366)	520 (53)	1241 (419)
Newbury Rural:				
Primary ...	202 (265)	136 (129)	4 (4)	342 (398)
Booster ...	— (—)	386 (112)	259 (19)	645 (131)
Hungerford Rural:				
Primary ...	66 (86)	66 (66)	— (7)	132 (159)
Booster ...	— (—)	53 (41)	72 (11)	125 (52)

The following table shows the total number of Primary Diphtheria Immunisation carried out in the four areas during the last ten years.

	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965
Newbury Borough:										
Under 5 ...	236	275	270	277	282	341	328	283	447	373
5—15 ...	13	3	1	1	2	30	5	3	6	27
Bradfield Rural:										
Under 5 ...	238	249	383	435	303	423	462	503	660	703
5—15 ...	9	6	—	23	21	10 *	9	8	18	18
Newbury Rural:										
Under 5 ...	220	200	205	300	250	315	228	265	394	338
5—15 ...	9	1	—	—	—	5	2	2	4	4
Hungerford Rural:										
Under 5 ...	103	94	92	87	93	153	104	96	152	132
5—15 ...	2	2	—	—	—	2	3	2	7	—
Total ...	830	830	951	1123	951	1279	1141	1162	1688	1595

VACCINATION, 1965

(Figures for 1964 in brackets)

District	Under 1	Over 1 but Under 5	5—15	Total
Newbury Borough:				
Primary ...	299 (211)	99 (56)	3 (10)	401 (277)
Re-Vaccination	— (—)	— (5)	112 (124)	112 (129)
Bradfield Rural:				
Primary ...	444 (308)	116 (84)	15 (29)	575 (421)
Re-Vaccination	— (—)	— (2)	123 (147)	123 (149)
Newbury Rural:				
Primary ...	280 (216)	66 (70)	7 (9)	353 (295)
Re-Vaccination	— (—)	— (26)	93 (130)	93 (156)
Hungerford Rural:				
Primary ...	75 (87)	9 (33)	— (2)	84 (122)
Re-Vaccination	— (—)	1 (—)	19 (19)	20 (19)
Total ...	1098 (822)	291 (276)	372 (470)	1761 (1568)

The following table shows the number of Children who during the past eight years were vaccinated when under one year of age

District	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965
Newbury Borough ...	219	175	230	311	75	103	211	299
Bradfield Rural ...	309	329	303	353	236	359	308	444
Newbury Rural ...	191	233	291	236	84	106	216	280
Hungerford Rural ...	110	95	84	108	36	49	87	75
Total ...	829	832	908	1008	431	617	822	1098

**Number of Vaccinations carried out in infants under one year, compared
with the annual number of births**

Area	Year	Live Births	Vaccinations	Percentage
Newbury Borough ...	1962	421	75	17·8
	1963	427	103	24·1
	1964	383	211	55·1
	1965	399	299	75
Bradfield R.D.C. ...	1962	666	236	35·4
	1963	747	359	48·1
	1964	713	308	43·2
	1965	841	444	52·8
Newbury R.D.C. ...	1965 ²	412	84	20·4
	1963	433	106	24·5
	1964	444	216	48·7
	1965	427	280	65·6
Hungerford R.D.C. ...	1962	155	36	23·3
	1963	172	49	28·5
	1964	185	87	47·0
	1965	166	75	45·2
Joint District ...	1962	1654	431	26·0
	1963	1779	617	34·7
	1964	1725	822	47·7
	1965	1833	1098	60·0

NEW CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS, 1965

Age Periods	Newbury Borough		Bradfield Rural		Newbury Rural		Hungerford Rural	
	Non- Resp.	Resp.	Non- Resp.	Resp.	Non- Resp.	Resp.	Non- Resp.	Resp.
0 — 1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
1 — 5	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
5 — 10	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
10 — 15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
15 — 20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20 — 25	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
25 — 35	1	—	1	1	1	1	1	—
35 — 45	1	1	3	1	2	1	—	—
45 — 55	3	—	3	—	1	1	—	—
55 — 65	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	—
65 & upwards	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	6	2	11	2	6	4	1	1

The following table shows the number of new cases of tuberculosis (respiratory and non-respiratory) which have occurred in the four areas during the last ten years.

Year	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Totals
1956	60	7	67
1957	44	8	52
1958	35	3	38
1959	25	3	28
1960	24	1	25
1961	30	2	32
1962	17	1	18
1963	26	1	27
1964	23	2	25
1965	24	9	33

NEWBURY BOROUGH

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Chief Public Health Inspector

for the year

1965

STAFF

Chief Public Health Inspector

J. HAGUE,, F.A.P.H.I.
(Retired 31.10.65))

Qualifications:—

Certificate of Royal Sanitary
Institute as Sanitary Inspector.
Certificate of Royal Sanitary
Institute as Inspector of Meat and
Other Food.

G. J. WICKENS, M.A.P.H.I.
(Appointed Chief Public Health
Inspector 1.11.65.) (Previously addi-
tional Public Health Inspector.)

Qualifications:—

Certificate of Royal Sanitary
Institute and Sanitary Inspectors'
Joint Board as Sanitary Inspector.
Certificate of Royal Sanitary
Institute as Inspector of Meat and
Other Food.

Additional Public Health Inspector

K. H. JAMES, M.A.P.H.I.
Appointed 1.1.65.

Qualifications:—

Certificate of Royal Sanitary
Institute and Sanitary Inspectors'
Joint Board as Sanitary Inspector.
Certificate of Royal Sanitary
Institute as Inspector of Meat and
Other Food.

Certificate of Sanitary Science as
applied to Buildings and Public
Works.

Additional Public Health Inspector

A. J. PENTECOST, M.A.P.H.I.,
Appointed 25.8.65. M.R.S.H.

Public Health Inspectors' Diploma
of the Public Health Inspectors'
Education Board.

Shorthand-Typist

Mrs. M. H. FRENCH.

BOROUGH OF NEWBURY

Report of Chief Public Health Inspector

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS' DEPARTMENT

The year 1965 saw the retirement of Mr. J. Hague after thirty five years as Chief Public Health Inspector of Newbury Borough.

During this time the population of the Borough had increased from 13,000 to just over 21,000. Boundaries of the Borough were also increased in 1934 and new legislation swelled the duties and responsibilities of the Department.

As Mr. Hague commented in his last report to the Public Health Committee that whereas the early years involved the follow up of cases of infectious diseases and the arrangements for the control of verminous properties these problems have, fortunately, been superceded and legislation of the Food Hygiene Regulations and Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Acts', now involve greater responsibilities and consideration.

Whilst meat inspection continues on an ever increasing scale it is now all carried out under one roof, and under satisfactory conditions.

Before he concluded his services with the Corporation, Mr. Hague was able to present to the Housing Committee his recommendations on the last of the houses included in the slum clearance programme 1955 and with the presentation of this last list the number of houses recommended for slum clearance during thirty five years was just over 600. Additionally, major improvements were carried out to 340 houses in the ten years preceding the war.

HOUSING

HOUSES IN CLEARANCE AREAS AND UNFIT HOUSES ELSEWHERE

Return for year 1965

A.1 HOUSES DEMOLISHED

	Houses demolished	Displaced during year Persons	Families
In Clearance Areas			
(Housing Act, 1957)			
(1) Houses unfit for human habitation	—	15	6
(2) Houses included by reason of bad arrangement, etc.	—	—	—
(3) Houses on land acquired under Section 43(2), Housing Act, 1957	—	—	—
Not in Clearance Areas			
(4) As a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 17(1), Housing Act, 1957	34	40	17
(5) Local authority owned houses certified unfit by the M.O.H. ...	—	—	—
(6) Houses unfit for human habitation where action has been taken under local Acts	—	—	—
(7) Unfit houses included in Unfitness Orders	—	—	—
A.2 Number of dwellings included above which were previously reported as closed	4	—	—

B. UNFIT HOUSES CLOSED

(8)	Under Sections 16(4), 17(1) and 35(1), Housing Act, 1957	...	1	1	1
(9)	Under Sections 17(3) and 26, Housing Act, 1957	... ..	—	—	—
(10)	Parts of buildings closed under Section 18, Housing Act, 1957		—	—	—

C. UNFIT HOUSES MADE FIT AND HOUSES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE REMEDIED

			By Owner	By Local Authority
(11)	After informal action by local authority	...	13	
(12)	After formal notice under			
	(a) Public Health Acts	... ..	6	—
	(b) Sections 9 and 16, Housing Act, 1957	...	—	—
(13)	Under Section 24, Housing Act, 1957	... ..	—

D. UNFIT HOUSES IN TEMPORARY USE (Housing Act, 1957)

			Number of Houses	Number of separate dwellings contained in column (1)
(14)	Retained for temporary accommodation		(1)	(2)
	(a) Under Section 48	... ..	—	—
	(b) Under Section 17(2)	... ..	—	—
	(c) Under Section 46	... ..	—	—
(15)	Licensed for temporary occupation under Sections 34 or 35	... ..	—	—

E. PURCHASE OF HOUSES BY AGREEMENT

			Number of Houses	Number of occupants of houses in column (1)
			(1)	(2)
(16)	Houses in Clearance Areas other than those included in confirmed Clearance Orders or Compulsory Purchase Orders purchased in the year 1965	... ..	—	—

Housing Act, 1957

Sub-standard houses

During 1965 another phase in the clearance of sub-standard houses was reached. The last of the 508 houses which were included in the programme commenced in 1955 were reported to the Housing Committee with recommendations for either demolition orders or closing orders. At the end of the year there were only five of these houses about which decisions had not yet been reached, and 41 families awaited re-housing from this sub-standard property.

The table below shows the progress made on slum clearance since 1955.

It is recalled that another 199 houses were dealt with by demolition orders or undertakings during the period 1931-1956. Except for 50 pre-fabricated houses all the properties dealt with were erected prior to 1920, and records show that these houses would have formed approximately 16 per cent of the dwelling houses in the Borough immediately after the First World War.

From time to time it will be necessary to deal with other houses as sub-standard by demolition orders etc., but it seems unlikely that any large numbers will need to be dealt with in the near future.

Demolition orders were made in respect of four houses in the year and undertakings not to let in respect of 15 houses for human habitation were made. 22 houses were demolished during this period and two were closed and not re-let for human habitation.

The tables following show the progress made with the elimination of sub-standard housing since the end of 1955 to the close of 1965:—

(1)	(a)	Houses reported to the Committee as unfit for human habitation and not capable of being rendered fit at a reasonable cost, or vacated for road improvements, etc.	463
	(b)	houses at present receiving consideration by the Committee	8
(2)		Compulsory Purchase Areas and Clearance Areas	
		Houses for which Compulsory Purchase Orders and Clearance Orders have been approved	36
(3)		Demolition Orders	
		Houses in respect of which Demolition Orders have been made	293
(4)		Closing Orders	
		Houses in respect of which undertakings to close have been accepted	119
(5)		Undertakings to Repair	
		Houses where undertakings to repair have been accepted ...	7

FOOD SUPPLIES

Milk and Dairies

Routine sampling of milk took place as shown below, no exception can be taken to results obtained. The bulk of the supplies, heat treated at the main dairy in the town, is sold outside the Borough.

Bacteriological examination of milk:—

Samples procured for	Type of Milk	Total samples taken	Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory	Remarks
1 Methylene Blue	T.T.	18	18	—	—
Test	Past	23	23	—	—
2 Phosphatase Test ...	Past	23	23	—	—

Eight series of bottles taken from the washer at the only pasteurising plant in the district were submitted for examination and the Bacteriologist's report showed that they were satisfactory.

Samples of Cream:

Nine samples of pasteurised cream were taken from two dairies in the town, and the results obtained were satisfactory.

Manufacture, storage and sale of ice-cream:

Fifty-nine samples of ice-cream were examined and were placed in the following grades:—

Grade I	...	...	...	56 (94.9%)
Grade II	...	...	...	2 (3.4%)
Grade III	...	...	...	— —
Grade IV	...	...	...	— —
Void	...	...	...	1 (1.7%)

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960

One hundred and seventy one businesses as classified under are subject to the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1960. Frequent visits were paid to these premises and works of a minor nature were sought of seven occupiers. All the premises complied with Regulation 16 of the Food Hygiene Regulations in that they had a fitted wash hand basin with hot and cold water supply.

Additionally, the one hundred and sixty two premises requiring washing facilities for food or equipment, are properly equipped.

Classification of Food Premises within the jurisdiction of the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1960

Butchers	...	...	...	...	...	17
General Stores	...	...	...	...	...	11
Hotels and other Licensed Premises	...	...	...	...	...	41
Cooked Meats	...	...	...	...	...	1
Grocers	...	...	...	...	...	33
Confectioners	...	...	...	...	...	21
Bakers	...	...	...	...	...	12
Catering	...	...	...	...	...	13
Greengrocers	...	...	...	...	...	10
Fishmongers	...	...	...	...	...	2
Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	2
Supermarkets	...	...	...	...	...	7
Ice-cream manufacturers	...	...	...	...	...	1
						171

Inspection of meat and other foodstuffs in shops, etc.:

WEIGHTS OF CANNED AND OTHER FOODS CONDEMNED AS UNFIT FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION

Canned meat	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1cwt.	102lb.
Fish	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		71lb.
Canned food other than meat	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3cwt.	15lb.
Other food	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		71lb.
Total weight condemned	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6cwt.	35lb.

Meat Inspection:

WEIGHTS OF CONDEMNED MEAT AND OFFAL

Classification							Tons	cwt.	lb.
(1)	At slaughterhouse	...	...	...	...	...	22	8	30
(2)	On retailers' premises:—								
	(a) Home killed	...	...	...	...	...		7	36
	(b) Imported	...	...	...	...	...		—
(3)	Total Weight	...	...	...	...	...	22	15	66

The throughput at the Board Abattoir continued to increase during the year and during the peak months of August-November the abattoir was obtaining a weekly throughput above the figure for which it was designed.

The throughput is now such that it is imperative that one Inspector should be at the Abattoir during all the hours when slaughtering is taking place.

		Cattle excluding Cows			Sheep and Lambs		Pigs	Totals
Number slaughtered	...	1,938	499	235	11,571	32,870	47,113	
Number inspected	...	1,938	499	235	11,571	32,870	47,113	

All diseases except

Tuberculosis and Cysticerci

Whole carcasses condemned	...	5	15	9	20	108	157
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	...	430	213	5	1,236	4,775	6,659
Percentage of the number inspected affected with diseases other than Tuberculosis	...	22·4	47·7	6·9	10·8	14·2	—

Tuberculosis only

Whole carcasses condemned	...	—	—	—	—	2	2
Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned	...	—	—	—	—	364	364
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	...	—	—	—	—	1·1	—

Cysticercosis

Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	...	—	—	—	—	—	—

FACTORIES, WORKPLACES, SHOPS, ETC.

Factories Acts, 1937 and 1948

Part 1 of the Act

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Inspections (3)	Number of Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	70	75	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	156	314	—	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises) ...	3	4	—	—
TOTAL	229	393	—	—

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars (1)	Found (2)	Number of cases in which defects were found			Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
		Remedied (3)	To H.M. Inspector (4)	Notified By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ...	10	9	—	1	Nil
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	Nil
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	1	Nil
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	Nil
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	Nil
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—	Nil
(b) Unsuitable or defective	6	5	—	2	Nil
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	Nil
Other offences against the Acts (not including offences relating to Out- work)	1	1	—	1	Nil
TOTAL	17	15	—	5	Nil

MISCELLANEOUS

Drainage

The extension of the new sewer to a new housing estate has meant that several properties on the London Road have been connected to the sewer and the use of defective septic tanks discontinued.

Rodent Control:

The number of agricultural, horticultural and business properties which were under contract to the Joint Rodent Control Committee decreased slightly during the year. At the end of 1965 the figures were:—

Newbury Borough	...	...	8
Newbury Rural District	...	...	39
Hungerford Rural District	...	...	34
a total of	...	...	81

Wasps' Nests:

During 1965 wasps' nest on domestic and business premises were destroyed by the rodent operators during the year as follows:—

Newbury Borough	...	...	68
Newbury Rural District	...	...	12
Hungerford Rural District	...	...	14

which shows a 118.6 per cent increase on the number so treated during 1964.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949 Return of work by Rodent Operators

	TYPE OF PROPERTY				Total
	Local Authority	Dwelling houses	Agricultural	All other (including Business & Industrial)	
1. Total number of properties in Local Authority's district	21	6,831	8	1,508	8,368
2. Number of properties inspected by Local Authority during 1965 as a result					
(a) of notification, or ...	3	136	8	34	175
(b) otherwise	25	110	9	14	158
3. Number of properties (under 2) found to be infested by rats	Major	—	—	—	—
	Minor	25	9	22	272
4. Number of properties (under 2) found to be infested by mice ...	1	21	—	17	39
5. Number of infested properties (under 3 and 4) treated by the Local Authority	26	237	9	39	311
6. Number of notices served under Section 4:					
(1) Treatment	—	—	—	—	—
(2) Structural works (i.e. proofing)	—	—	—	—	—
Total	—	—	—	—	—
7. Number of cases in which default action was taken by Local Authority following issue of notice under Section 4	—	—	—	—	—
8. Legal Proceedings ...	—	—	—	—	—
9. Number of "block" control scheme carried out = 7					

OFFICES, SHOPS, AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

A general inspection of most places had taken place by the end of 1964, and the year 1965 saw the follow-up of outstanding contraventions of the new legislation and the issue of notices for the carrying out of the really necessary works. In nearly all cases employers were co-operative and ready to comply with the requirements of the Act.

The need to re-register premises on change of ownership does not appear to be realised as a responsibility of employers, and in practically all cases registration was only effected after a visit by an Inspector had taken place when it was observed there had been a change of ownership.

No complaints, directly or indirectly, were received from employees about their workplace.

A number of developers were contracted, after the plans of their proposals had been inspected, to draw their attention to the requirements of the sanitary accommodation and washing facility regulations, and a number of errors were corrected at the drawing board stage.

Lighting Standards

- (1) (a) The standard of lighting of shops and offices inspected during the last three months of 1965 was satisfactory in the majority of cases. Those places where low readings were obtained on a light meter accepted the recommendations made to them. No particular parts of premises, such as staircases or cloakrooms, were found to be inadequately lit, nor complaints on lighting received from any employee.
- (b) The classes of premises with unsatisfactory lighting were varied and bore no resemblance to class, but rather to the smaller businesses of a few employees.
- (c) All recommendations on standard of lighting have been set out in the Illumination Engineering Society code.
- (d) No instances of excessive glare have been noted or reported during the period.

- (2) The following table sets out a summary of lighting in 88 separate offices which were contained in 43 registered premises:—

Less than 5 lumens per sq. ft.	...	1
5—10 lumens per sq. ft.	... ..	1
10—15 lumens per sq. ft.	... ..	7
15—25 lumens per sq. ft.	... ..	30
25+ lumens per sq. ft.	... ..	49

- (3) The standards of lighting in the working area of shops were, in the main higher than those found in adjoining packing rooms and stock rooms, but no really bad cases of illumination were found in rear stock rooms.

TABLE A—Registrations and General Inspections

Class of Premises (1)	No. of premises registered during the year (2)	Total No. of registered premises at end of year (3)	No. of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year (4)
Offices	14	120	37
Retail Shops	24	231	36
Wholesale Shops, warehouses	1	9	2
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens ...	2	28	9
Fuel storage depots	—	2	1
TOTALS	41	390	85

**TABLE B—Number of visits of all kinds by Inspectors
to Registered Premises**
452

**TABLE C—Analysis of persons employed in Registered
Premises by Workplace**

Class of Workplace (1)	Number of persons employed (2)
Offices	1,172
Retail shops	1,559
Wholesale departments, warehouses	128
Catering establishments open to the public	216
Canteens	14
Fuel storage depots	14
Total	3,103
Total males	1,202
females	1,901

TABLE D—Exemptions

Offices				
Retail shops				
Wholesale shops, warehouses	—	—	—	—
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens ...				
Fuel storage depots				

TABLE E—Prosecutions

Prosecutions instituted of which the hearing was completed in the year	Nil
Number of complaints (or summary applications) made under Section 22	Nil
Number of interim orders granted	Nil

BRADFIELD RURAL DISTRICT

Report of Chief Public Health Inspector

WATER SUPPLIES

TABLE SHOWING THE ESTIMATED POSITION WITH REGARD TO MAIN AND OTHER WATER SUPPLIES

Parish	Total		Mains Water Available		No. Mains Available
	Houses	Pop.	Houses	Pop.	
Aldermaston	520	2079	501	2020	19
Ashampstead	132	374	123	351	9
Basildon	387	1227	383	1214	4
Beech Hill	92	329	86	313	6
Beenham	242	800	228	753	14
Bradfield	428	1584	403	1502	25
Bucklebury	774	2405	741	2293	33
Burghfield	942	3102	902	2914	40
Englefield	69	219	—	—	69
Frilsham	106	342	89	290	17
Grazeley	6	23	4	16	2
Padworth	155	453	118	331	37
Pangbourne	733	2430	699	2324	34
Purley	706	2035	706	2035	—
Stanford Dingley	53	129	49	117	4
Stratfield Mortimer	859	2718	835	2637	24
Streatley	309	922	291	865	18
Sulham	31	97	—	—	31
Sulhamstead	469	1516	449	1454	20
Sulhamstead Bannister	30	115	25	100	5
Theale	623	1981	610	1941	13
Tidmarsh	84	274	74	241	10
Tilehurst	2491	8817	2491	8817	—
Ufton	77	220	41	107	36
Wokefield	27	114	23	102	4
Yattendon	92	295	89	286	3
Totals	10437	34600	9960	33023	477

New mains laid during 1965 were as follows:—

Drury Lane, Mortimer	...	...	...	230 yards
Hatch Lane, Bucklebury	...	...	...	272 yards
College Piece, Mortimer	...	...	...	865 yards
School Road, Burghfield	...	...	...	707 yards
Clay Hill Road, Burghfield	...	...	...	367 yards
Station Road, Theale	...	...	...	810 yards
The Avenue, Mortimer	...	...	...	202 yards
Beenham	...	...	...	18 yards
Holmdene, Burghfield Common	...	...	...	55 yards
Longmoor Lane, Mortimer	...	...	...	246 yards
Willows Estate, Theale	...	...	...	1935 yards
New Hill, Purley	...	...	...	100 yards
Manor House, Burghfield Road	...	...	...	200 yards
Mortimer West End	...	...	...	97 yards
Beechfield, Frilsham	...	...	...	90 yards
Marsh Farm, Pangbourne	...	...	...	114 yards

Water Samples

A total of 107 water samples were taken for examination during the year from 18 individual supplies and two Estate supplies.

Three wells serving private houses were found to be unsatisfactory and remedial action was taken.

The two Estate supplies gave rise to some concern during the year with results indicating intermittent pollution. In the one case, intensive sampling throughout the supply revealed the cause of the pollution and remedial action was taken. The cause of the unsatisfactory samples from the other Estate supply was traced to the chlorination plant, the operation of which was being affected by the natural chemicals in the water. Remedial action was taken, by the addition of special filters.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The Surveyor has kindly supplied me with the details of progress on the various schemes as follows:—

Scheme	Properties Served	Remarks
Purley	1372	
New sewer line, connecting to Pangbourne sewage disposal works.		Work on the scheme continued throughout the year and it is expected to be completed in February, 1966.
Pangbourne—Newtown	30	
Extension to sewer.		Work has been completed.
Becnham	59	
Extension to sewer and alterations to works.		Work on this scheme continued throughout the year and it is expected to be completed in April, 1966.
Ufton Nervet	80	
Wises Firs.		Work is due for completion in April, 1966.
Mortimer	—	
Additions to treatment works		Work has been completed.
Englefield Village	96	
		It is anticipated that the work will be started in the Summer of 1966.

Other major schemes under consideration are:—

Lower Padworth/Aldermaston Wharf area	112 houses
Stanford Dingley, Rotten Row, Tutts Clump, Bradfield	120 houses
Beech Hill	91 houses

The surface water drainage schemes at The Crescent, Mortimer and Impstone Plantation, Aldermaston have been completed.

Cesspool Emptying Service

A cesspool emptying service was introduced on the 1st January, 1965, the Council employing a private contractor to carry out emptyings.

This arrangement is subject to review after two years, when the Council will then consider continuing with this scheme, or operating the service by means of direct labour.

Shortage of labour generally for this kind of work, has led to certain difficulties in getting tanks emptied quickly when an emergency arises with full or overflowing drainage systems.

A direct labour scheme catering solely for properties within the district would seem to be the only answer to this problem.

Refuse Collection

The improved refuse collection scheme scheduled to start during the year had to be postponed owing to the shortage of labour. It is anticipated that this "inside gate" collection will now be put into operation during the early part of 1966.

Paper sacks were issued to all premises where collection fell on Public Holidays and Christmas Eve, and occupiers of premises unable to be reached by refuse vehicles (i.e. long drives, farm tracks) were supplied throughout the year with paper sacks.

During the year the refuse depot was enlarged and the larger capacity refuse vehicles and other equipment can now be adequately housed.

Improvements included better maintenance facilities, a staffroom and more suitable toilet accommodation.

(A) HOUSING TABLE

Number of dwellings built

(a) by local authority	...	...	...	...	...	...	79
(b) by private enterprise	...	...	...	...	...	...	470

Inspection of dwellings during year

1. (a) Total number of dwellings inspected for housing defects	306
(b) Number of inspections for this purpose	372
2. Number of dwellings found to be unfit for habitation and not capable of repair at reasonable cost	6
3. Number of dwellings found to be unfit, but capable of repair at reasonable cost	44

Remedy of defects during year

4. Number of dwellings rendered fit in consequence of informal action	36
5. Number of dwellings rendered fit by statutory action	3
6. Number of dwellings in respect of which Demolition or Closing Orders were made	5
7. Number of dwellings in respect of which Undertakings were made	1
8. Number of dwellings demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	3
9. Number of dwellinghouses included in Clearance Orders made by the Local Authority	Nil
10. Number of dwellings included in Clearance Orders confirmed by the Minister	Nil
11. Number of dwellings demolished in pursuance of Clearance Orders	Nil

(B) IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

The following grants were authorised during the year:—

				Owner-Occupied Premises	Tenanted Premises	Total
Standard	...	...	...	15	5	20
Discretionary	...	...	...	17	24	41
Totals	...	...	...	32	29	61

CARAVANS

Number of licensed caravans in the District:—

A. Individually licensed	...	...	...	...	84
B. On multiple sites	...	...	...	...	422 actual 500 permitted

Proposed Council Site, Purley

Following the restriction on Local Government expenditure, works to the proposed site have had to be deferred. It was hoped that the site would be in operation by 1966 but no date can now be anticipated for completion.

Travellers Site, Mortimer

Work on this site was continued throughout the year and it is anticipated that it will be in operation by the early part of 1966.

The families selected to go onto the site appear most appreciative of the Council's efforts to help them and it is hoped that with the excellent facilities that will be provided on the site, that they will gradually lead a more settled way of life.

As their children are now attending local schools, it is hoped that the education they receive will prove to be beneficial in their integration with the community in general.

The establishment of this site has unfortunately been the cause of even more "invasions" from "travellers" from various parts of the country wishing to get places on the site.

This has led once again to much time being spent on dealing with the removal of these people and the accompanying clearance of the resulting debris.

OFFICES, SHOPS & RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

Table A. Registrations and General Inspections

Class of Premises				No. of premises registered during the year	Total No. of registered premises at end of year	No. of Registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year
Offices	...	...	...	6	40	15
Retail shops	...	...	...	21	78	63
Wholesale shops and ware- houses	...	...	...	—	—	—
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	...	...	...	5	11	11
Fuel storage depots	...	...	...	—	2	—
Totals	...	...	...	32	31	89

Table B.

Number of visits of all kinds by Inspectors to registered premises ... 167

Table C. Analysis of persons employed in registered premises by workplace

Class of Workplace								Number of persons employed
Offices	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	328
Retail shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	280
Wholesale departments, warehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	36
Catering establishments open to the public	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	52
Canteens	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Fuel storage depots	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	704
Total Males	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	274
Total Females	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	430

On inspection of the premises, 69 defects were found as follows:—

No First Aid Kit	...	...	...	...	20 premises
No hot water	...	...	...	...	7 premises
No thermometer	...	...	...	...	18 premises
No clothing accommodation	...	...	...	...	1 premises
Insufficient sanitary accommodation	...	...	...	...	2 premises
Insufficient washing facilities	...	...	...	...	3 premises
Insufficient lighting	...	...	...	...	4 premises
Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	1 premises
No drinking water	...	...	...	...	1 premises
Defective floors	...	...	...	...	1 premises
Lack of heating	...	...	...	...	6 premises
Lack of ventilation to sanitary accommodation	...	...	...	...	5 premises

The owners of the premises were notified either verbally or by letter and most of the work was attended immediately. It is anticipated that the remainder of the premises will be brought into full compliance with the Act during the early part of 1966.

PETROLEUM ACTS 1928/36

Number of premises in register	...	...	...	...	62
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	45

Twenty minor infringements of the Regulations were found and were rectified.

DISEASES OF ANIMALS (WASTE FOOD) ORDER

Number of premises in Register	...	...	...	...	4
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	10

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT

Number of licensed premises	...	...	...	3
Number of inspections	...	...	...	4
No contravention of the Act were found.				

FOOD: INSPECTION AND CONTROL

(a) Food Hygiene Regulations

No statutory action has been found necessary. Improvements have been carried out to 29 premises.

Food premises in the district comprise:—

Catering— Cafes and Restaurants	...	...	27
Licensed premises	...	...	49
Works' Canteens	...	...	11
Institutes (Clubs)	...	...	15
Butchers	...	...	13
Bakers	...	...	9
Fishmongers	...	...	2
Grocers	...	...	76
Greengrocers	...	...	9
Confectioners	...	...	9
Others	...	...	3

(b) Registration under Section 16, Food and Drugs Act, 1955

Sale of Ice Cream	...	...	6
Ham Boiling	...	...	2

(c) Inspection of Meat and Other Foodstuffs in Shops, etc.

Weights of food condemned as unfit for human consumption:—

Tinned Food	...	...	33lb.
Other Food	...	...	210lb.
Total	...	...	243lb.

(d) Meat Inspection at the Slaughterhouse

Throughput	Carcase	Condemnations
		Part of carcase or organ
Sheep 42	—	2

RODENT CONTROL

	Non Agricultural			Total	Agricultural
	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	Business and Industrial		
1. No. of properties in District	40	9984	605	10629	431
(a) No. of properties inspected as a result of notification ...	—	99	14	113	2
(b) Survey under the Act	40	2600	250	2890	260
(c) Others and Contracts	2	91	75	168	69
2. Total Inspections carried out (including re-inspections) ...	156	4092	1536	9784	1560
3. No. of Properties found to be infested by:—					
(a) Rats (Major) ...	15	9	13	37	35
(Minor) ...	17	165	123	305	248
(b) Mice (Major) ...	—	5	11	16	22
(Minor ...	1	42	54	97	51
4. No. of infested Properties treated by Local Authority ...	32	189	79	300	71
5. Total treatments carried out:— including re-treatments	33	221	201	455	356
6. No. of Notices served under Section 4 of the Act					
(a) Treatment	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Structural Work ...	—	—	—	—	—
7. No. of Block Control Schemes carried out	—	10	—	—	—

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Inspections (3)	Number of Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
(a) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	5	6	—	—
(b) Factories not included in (a) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	77	48	1	—
(c) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ...	2 ³	2	—	—
Total	85	56	1	—

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

Particulars (1)	Found (2)	Number of cases in which defects were found		Notified		Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
		Remedied (3)	To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)		
Want of cleanliness S.1	—	—	—	—	—	
Overcrowding S.2 ...	—	—	—	—	—	
Unreasonable tempera- ture S.3	—	—	—	—	—	
Inadequate ventilation S.4	—	—	—	—	—	
Ineffective drainage of floors S.6	—	—	—	—	—	
Sanitary Conveniences S.7						
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—	—	
(b) Unsuitable or defec- tive	5	5	—	1	—	
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—	
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork	—	—	—	—	—	
Total	5	5	—	1	—	

Part VIII of the Act

Outwork—No. of workers in list required by Section 133 (1) (c).
Making etc. of wearing apparel — 14.

HUNGERFORD RURAL DISTRICT

Report of Chief Public Health Inspector

Summary of No. of Visits Made during the Year

No. of visits under Housing Acts	...	...	...	...	435
No. of visits under Public Health Acts	...	...	...	...	459
No. of visits under Petroleum Regulations	...	...	...	...	60
No. of visits made to Food Premises	...	...	...	...	410
No. of visits under Factories Acts	...	...	...	...	60
No. of visits under Rodent Control	...	...	...	...	179

Water Supplies

The main supply now covers the majority of the Council's area, and without doubt there has been a considerable increase in the consumption of water. It is understood that in one part of the district served by the Thames Valley Water Board, a 25 per cent increase in consumption has been noted during the last four years.

Samples are still taken periodically from various points in the district. Although it is accepted that the main supplies are regularly examined by the distributors, it is felt that these samples, taken away from the distribution points, are important; they give a useful check on supplies generally, and may provide an indication of the condition of the storage facilities in individual premises.

The new reservoir being constructed at Hungerford, should meet the urgent need for an improved pressure in the higher parts of the town, also it may be possible to extend the supply to some isolated properties now supplied from wells.

With the continued increase in consumption of water due to the construction of new dwellings and improvement of existing sub-standard properties, one wonders whether consideration should be given to the re-designing of certain fittings to prevent the extravagant use of water, e.g. the alteration of the flushing cistern to limit the quantity of water used at certain times.

Samples	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Samples taken from Public Supplies	5	—
Samples taken from Private Supplies	7	3
Samples taken from Swimming Pools	4	—

SEWERAGE

Hungerford Scheme

For some years the Council have been anxiously awaiting the commencement of the work to improve the overloaded and old system and works. The improvements to the scheme have now been started and without doubt, the Council will express considerable relief and await the completion of the contract, when this scheme will be in full operation; when this time comes it is hoped that all the aggrieved persons may forget their drains were ever flooded and a trouble to them.

Lambourn and Kintbury Schemes

I am able to report again this year that these schemes gave rise to little trouble. There is always present the difficulty of drying and disposing of the sludge.

Scheme for Emptying Septic Tank and Cesspools

The Council have for some years past expressed the wish to help in some way persons who have septic tanks or cesspools in use and cannot be connected to a main scheme. A considerable amount of discussion and investigation has taken place on the matter and various contractors, who are concerned in this business, have been asked for their views, also their prices for bulk work through the Council. Finally, it was decided that a scheme should be put into operation from 1st April, 1966; when the Council would be responsible for the running of a scheme, and a £1 grant per year would be made in respect of all properties connected to Septic Tank or Cesspool which required emptying.

HOUSING TABLE

Number of dwellings built

(a) by local authority	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
(b) by private enterprise	...	...	...	...	...	...	59

Remedy of defects during year

1. Number of dwellings rendered fit in consequence of informal action	...	...	...	...	...	...	32
2. Number of dwellings in respect of which Demolition Orders wer made	..	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
3. Number of dwellings in respect of which Undertakings were made	....	...	...	...	...	...	1
4. Number of dwellings in respect of which Closing Orders were made	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
5. Number of dwellings demolished following formal or informal action	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
6. Number of dwellinghouses included in Clearance Orders made by the Local Authority	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
7. Number of dwellings included in Clearance Orders confirmed by the Minister	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
8. Number of dwellings demolished in pursuance of Clearance Orders	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil

Improvement Grants

The following grants were authorised during the year:—

	Owner-Occupied Premises				Tenanted Premises		Total
Standard	6	2		8
Discretionary	6	1		7

CARAVANS

Individual Licensed Sites

There appears to be no new problem from isolated caravans, there are still a number of individual licensed sites and they can be troublesome at times if they are not regularly inspected.

In certain instances one wonders whether the applications for licensing of individual sites should be granted, or whether these families should be re-housed and the application for the caravan site refused. It is often found that when such licences are granted for a short period, it is difficult and possibly unreasonable to ask for all the Public Health requirements and the family lives under poor conditions.

General

Special care must also be taken to check that where caravans are apparently used as an additional accommodation to the dwelling and occupied by members of the household, this is actually the case; and similarly, when caravans are occupied as sleeping quarters at training establishments, they are not overcrowded or allowed to become dirty through lack of attention.

It is some years now since this district has seen any of the roaming caravan dwellers and it is not expected that they will again become the nuisance they were in past years.

FOOD AND DRUGS

Milk and Dairies

Routine sampling of milk for bacteriological examination continued as in previous years.

	No. of Samples	Tested and found satisfactory			Unsatisfactory
		Methylene Blue Test	Phosphate Test	Turbidity Test	
T.T. Past CI	7	7	7	N/A	—
T.T. Past	6	6	6	N/A	—
Pasteurised	7	7	7	N/A	—
Sterilised	2	N/A	N/A	2	—
Raw T.T. CI	1	1	N/A	N/A	—
T.T. Past. Hom.	3	3	3	N/A	—

Sale of Food

No. of Food Premises in the District

Butchers ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Bakers ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Greengrocers and Fishmongers	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Grocers and Confectioners ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	35
Caterers (Licensed and Industrial)	...	...	...	...	...	...	36
Fish Friers ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Dairies ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Milk Retailers ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Total ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	104

Unfit Food

Food condemned as unfit for human consumption

Red Star Pressed Ham	...	...	...	...	12lb.
Mitros Pressed Ham	...	...	...	...	8lb.
Argo Pressed Ham ...	...	...	...	...	4lb.

Ice-cream

There are still no manufacturers of ice-cream in the district, and all retailers being registered for the sale of pre-packed ice-cream, were as follows:—

No. of premises registered	...	...	...	...	45
No. of inspections	...	...	...	...	76
No. of Samples	Provisional Grade I				II
31	24				7

COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF REFUSE

The Council's decision to purchase the practically untried Eagle Crushload Refuse Collection Vehicle has, I feel, been well justified. It was known that certain "teething" troubles could, and possibly would, arise during its early life, and some of these troubles arose during the year but with speedy service and minor modifications the general collection scheme did not suffer serious delays or interference. The purchase of this vehicle is also justified in the light that numerous similar machines are now in operation with other local authorities, large and small.

There can be no doubt, that every refuse collection vehicle should be fitted with some form of compression mechanism, otherwise it cannot carry its economic load to its point of discharge.

Since the Council has exercised a greater control on refuse disposal and now follow the "controlled" method of tipping, the pit at Avington is nearing the end of its useful life. This was the only site in operation during the year, but attention was given to the final covering of the pits at School Lane, Woodland St. Mary and Irish Hill, Kintbury.

It will be understood that now the refuse is covered daily with soil or similar material and is not immediately reduced in bulk, as previously when it was allowed to burn; the space of the pit is further reduced by the covering materials. Although the Council already have two new approved sites the need for additional sites for this use, must continually be in mind.

During the year it has become more apparent that the Council must accept unwanted vehicles at their tip, in addition to the increased quantity of scrap materials of all kinds. As a result of this, an unlimited amount of scrap metal found its way onto the tips. Special effort was made to interest Scrap Merchants in this waste, but they all appear to be very reluctant to make a collection. However, the majority of scrap metal has now been collected and it is hoped that other irregular collections will be made.

LITTER

Every effort was made by the Council to ensure that the countryside in their district did not become littered with numerous articles of rubbish. Whenever reports were received of articles having been "dumped" in ditches, hedges, tracks, etc., arrangements were made for special collections and this action was appreciated.

Additional litter receptacles have been sited on the beauty spots at Walbury Hill and Inkpen Beacon, also on Hungerford Common. The Council have in the normal way replaced any small defective litter bins, and in some areas increased the numbers which are attached to posts, bus shelters, etc. It was noted during the year that the lay-bys on the major roads were no longer providing a litter problem.

RODENT CONTROL

During the year continued effort was made to increase the number of premises covered by contracts, particularly the premises occupied by farmers.

It is felt that the regular inspection and treatment of premises under contract had already, and would in the future, play a large part in the control eradication of the rodent population.

In the treatment of wasps nests, the Committee continued its policy of a free service to old persons, and a small minimum charge otherwise, or the alternative of a free supply of insecticide to persons wishing to carry out the work for themselves.

See next page for rodent control table.

FACTORIES AND WORKPLACES

Routine action was taken during the year in respect of Factories, Workplaces and Offices and Shop Premises.

PETROLEUM INSTALLATIONS

The installations which stored petrol for sale were visited periodically during the year, and some visits were made also to smaller installations, where the petrol was stored for private use and not sold to the general public, e.g. farmers and building contractors.

No. of premises licensed—

15 Filling Stations and Garages

55 ~~15~~ Private Installations.

The following table shows the work carried out by the Rodent Control Staff.

	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	Business and Industrial	Total	Agricultural
1. No. of Properties in- spected as a result of					
(a) Notification ...	—	96	12	108	14
(b) Survey under the Act	15	61	8	84	61
(c) Otherwise ...	31	905	1139	2075	101
2. Total of inspections carried out (includes re-inspection) ...	133	432	57	622	502
3. No. of properties found to be infested by:—					
(a) Rats (Major) ...	—	—	—	—	10
(Minor) ...	—	82	9	91	2
(b) Mice (Major) ...	—	—	—	—	—
(Minor) ...	—	7	3	10	1
4. No. of infested pro- perties treated by Local Authority ...	15	129	13	157	67
5. Total treatments car- ried out—includes re-treatments ...	26	150	17	193	133
6. Number of Notices served under Section 4 of the Act:					
(a) Treatment ...	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Structural Work ...	—	—	—	—	—
7. No. of "Block" Con- trol Schemes carried out ...	5	—	—	—	—

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Inspections (3)	Number of Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	6	19	Nil	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	46	41	Nil	Nil
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total	52	60	Nil	Nil

2. Cases in which Defects were found.

Particulars (1)	Found (2)	Number of cases in which defects were found			Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
		Remedied (3)	To H.M. Inspector (4)	Notified By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	Nil	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	Nil	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	Nil	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	Nil	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	Nil	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	Nil	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	Nil	—	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	Nil	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work)	Nil	—	—	—	—
Total	Nil	—	—	—	—

PART VIII

Outwork

There are no outworkers in the district.

NEWBURY RURAL DISTRICT

Report of Chief Public Health Inspector

Water Supplies:

During the year three samples were taken from wells for bacteriological examination. Two of the samples were not satisfactory and appropriate action was taken. During the year a survey of the district was made to ascertain the number of households which are without mains water, and which rely on wells or bores. These supplies are being sampled and where they are shown to be polluted, the owner of the property will be asked to provide mains water.

The following table shows the position of the various parishes.

Parish	Population	Number of Houses	Houses without mains water
Boxford	562	168	19
Brimpton and Wasing ...	631	172	9
Chieveley	2049	592	32
Cold Ash	1885	527	5
Enborne	616	176	6
Greenham	947	296	20
H. Marshall	190	70	20
Leckhampstead	434	137	—
Midgham	405	115	13
Shaw	2190	618	9
Speen	1641	459	34
Thatcham	9531	2739	63
Welford	701	170	25
Winterbourne	172	73	24
Woolhampton	696	227	1
	21650	6463	280

The supply is adequate throughout the district and a check on purity is maintained by routine sampling by the Water Board.

Sewage Disposal

1. The Wickham Village Sewerage Scheme was completed during the year.
2. Work on the preparation of schemes for Weston Village, Upper Woolhampton, Enborne Row, Curridge and Stroud Green Area was carried out.

Refuse Collection

In July 1965. A back door refuse collection was started in the Thatcham area and this collection has worked smoothly during the remainder of the year. The Council has decided not to extend the back door collection for the time being on financial grounds, but it is the intention of the Council to carry out a back door collection throughout the District at an appropriate time.

The pilot paper bag collection scheme from the Chapel Street Housing Site at Thatcham was extended as new houses were occupied. All holders are now fully protected with a wire guard to prevent tearing of the bags by dogs. The scheme is proving a success and ensures a more hygienic storage of the refuse and a dustless collection.

The refuse pit at Pound Lane, Thatcham was completed in the Spring and is now leased to a farmer who is preparing the ground for sowing of grass.

Disposal of refuse is now carried out jointly with Borough Council at their refuse tip at Lower Way Lane. This arrangement is now on a permanent basis.

Food Supplies

The following table shows the number of food shops in the area in addition to which there are forty-three hotels and public houses.

Grocers	41
Bakers and Confectioners (includes four bakeries)	11
Butchers	11
Greengrocers	5
Sugar Confectioners	8
Fishmongers	1
Fried Fish Shops	1

Routine visits have ensured a satisfactory standard under the Food Hygiene Regulations, and no formal action has been necessary. Seven butchers are registered for the manufacture of sausages, and 60 premises are licenced for the sale of ice-cream.

The slaughterhouse continued to operate at Pound Lane, Thatcham, and as in previous years 100 per cent inspection of carcasses was carried out.

The following table shows the number of animals slaughtered and the amount of meat condemned. The figures in brackets refer to 1964.

	No. of animals slaughtered		No. of whole carcasses condemned		Estimated weight of meat condemned (in pounds)	
Pigs	26,786	(19,239)	25	(13)	16,688	(16,784)
Sheep	755	(2,857)	1	(6)	98	(519)
Calves	41	(74)	Nil	(2)	Nil	(113)
	27,582	(22,170)	26	(21)	16,786	(17,416)

Housing

Housing Table

No. of dwellings built:

(a) By Local Authority	100
(b) Private enterprise	112

Inspections of dwellings during year:

(1)(a) Total number of dwellings inspected for housing defects ...	139
(b) Number of inspections for this purpose	173
(2) Number of dwellings found to be unfit for habitation and not repairable at reasonable cost	Nil
(3) Number of dwellings found to be unfit, but capable of repair at reasonable cost	59

Remedy of defects during year:

(4) Number of dwellings rendered fit in consequence of informal action	37
(5) Number of dwellings rendered fit by statutory action ...	Nil
(6) Number of dwellings in respect of which demolition orders were made	Nil
(7) Number of dwellings demolished in pursuant of demolition orders	Nil
(8) Number of dwellings included in Clearance Areas	Nil
(9) Number of dwellings demolished in pursuance of Clearance Orders	Nil
Grants for improvement of private houses:	
Discretionary grants	26
Standard grants	11

Caravans

The following table shows the number of licensed sites.

Site								No. Licenced
1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100
2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	69
3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	30
4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	30
5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
								247

In addition to the above there are sixty-one caravans on small sites containing less than six vans. During the year 23 families were rehoused in Council houses from caravans.

Rodent Control

Treatment is carried out under the joint scheme with Newbury Borough and Hungerford R.D.C. and the following table is a copy of the annual return sent to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

			Local Authority (1)	Dwelling Houses (inc. Council Houses) (2)	All other (including Business Premises) (3)	Total of Cols. 1, 2 & 3 (4)	Agricultural (5)
1.	Number of properties in Local Authority's District	...	25	6429	713	7230	409
2.	Total number of properties inspected as a result of notification		4	146	17	167	13
	Number of such properties found to be infested by						
	Common rat						
	Major	...	—	—	1	1	—
	Minor	...	4	139	10	153	13
	Ship rat						
	Major	...	—	—	—	—	—
	Minor	...	—	—	—	—	—
	House mouse						
	Major	...	—	—	—	—	—
	Minor	...	—	5	3	8	—
3.	Total number of properties inspected in the course of survey under the Act	...	11	91	2	104	70
	Number of such properties found to be infested by:—						
	Common rat						
	Major	...	—	—	—	—	1
	Minor	...	8	89	2	99	64
	Ship rat						
	Major	...	—	—	—	—	—
	Minor	...	—	—	—	—	—

	Local Authority (1)	Dwelling Houses (inc. Council Houses) (2)	All other (including Business Premises) (3)	Total of Cols. 1, 2 & 3 (4)	Agricultural (5)
House mouse					
Major	—	—	—	—	—
Minor	—	1	—	1	1
4. Total number of pro- perties otherwise in- spected (e.g. when visited primarily for some other purpose	—	—	—	—	—
Number of such pro- perties found to be infested by:—					
Common rat					
Major	—	—	—	—	—
Minor	—	—	—	—	—
Ship rat					
Major	—	—	—	—	—
Minor	—	—	—	—	—
House mouse					
Major	—	—	—	—	—
Minor	—	—	—	—	—
5. Total inspections car- ried out—including re-inspections ...	44	701	53	798	482
(To be completed only if figures are readily available)					
6. Number of infested properties (in Sec- tions 2, 3 and 4) treat- ed by the L.A. ...	12	234	16	262	68
7. Total treatments car- ried out—including retreatments	14	254	18	286	149
(To be completed only if figures are readily available)					
8. Number of notices served under Section 4 of the Act:					
(a) Treatment ...	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Structural Work (i.e. Proofing) ...	—	—	—	—	—
9. Number of cases in which default action was taken following the issue of a notice under Section 4 of the Act	—	—	—	—	—
10. Legal Proceedings ...	—	—	—	—	—
11. Number of "Block" control schemes car- ried out	8	—	—	—	—

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1961

PART I OF THE ACT

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Inspections (3)	Number of Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	6	2	Nil	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	68	16	Nil	Nil
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	—	—	—	—
Total	74	18	Nil	Nil

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases").

Particulars (1)	Found (2)	Number of cases in which defects were found Remedied (3)	Notified To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work)	—	—	—	—	—
Total	—	—	—	—	—

PART VIII OF THE ACT

Outwork

(Sections 133 and 134)

Nature of work (1)	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 133(1)(c) (2)	No. of cases of default in send- ing lists to the Council (3)	No. of prosecu- tions for failure to supply lists (4)	No. of instances of work in unwhole- some premises (5)	Notices served (6)	Prosecutions (7)
Wearing apparel						
Making etc., Cleaning and Washing ...	2	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

not

